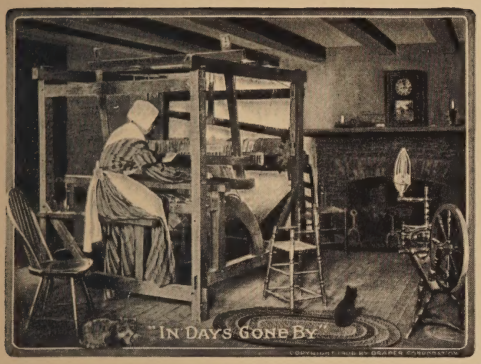
COTTON CHATS

DRAPER CORPORATION
HOPEDALE, MASSACHUSETTS



COTTON CHATS

TRADE-MARK REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

DRAPER CORPORATION

HOPEDALE MASS.

No. 211. MAY 1920.

INCREASED PRODUCTION WAS THE WAR CRY

up to the signing of the armistice.

Goods and still more goods were needed for immediate use to aid in winning the war.

Increased production is today important from the manufacturer's standpoint and covering product per individual, product per machine and product per dollar's worth of cost for labor, use of plant, equipment, etc. The most important aid to this desideratum is automatic machinery; in a cotton cloth mill this calls especially for automatic looms.

An advantage of the Northrop Loom, as has been repeatedly demonstrated, is its capacity to be operated for a considerable period without attention of the weaver. Many mills both north and south leave the power on in the weave room during the noon hour and a corresponding time either night or morning and thus add materially to the

number of yards produced by the same weavers and equipment. The length of time that the looms can be operated under such conditions depends upon the character of the goods. With the hours of labor reduced to 48 per week, the legal limit in many states, the gain in percentage is greater than under the old basis of 60 hours per week. Also with high labor costs and scarcity of help the advantages multiply.

In this connection the following extracts from reports of our men in their visits to various mills will be of interest. In all cases where percentages of product are mentioned, 100 per cent. represents continuous operation of the looms for regular mill hours.

At a mill with about six hundred looms:

> The weavers are running from 20 to 28 looms each. The mill runs through the noon hour and about an hour at night but do not require the help to stay in. They are getting off about 105 per cent. production.

At a mill with about one thousand looms:

> Weavers are running 16 to 24 looms each. They get about 103 per cent. production by running through the noon hour.

At a mill with about one hundred and twenty-five looms:

> The superintendent's records show they have got off an average of 109 per cent. for the last three years. They run the looms at noon time, also one hour after the mill closes at night.

At a mill with several thousand looms:

> The superintendent said that about 900 Northrop looms were weaving more cloth than 1000 old common looms, which were replaced, and they were obliged to put in

additional spinning to keep the Northrop looms running.

At a mill with a large number of looms:

The overseer of weaving told me that it took more help to run nine hundred common looms than it did nearly two thousand Northrop looms.

At a mill with about eight hundred looms:

The superintendent reported wonderful success with their Northrop looms on a wide range of goods, and that it was easier to get weavers on Northrop looms than on common looms.

At a mill with about three hundred looms:

The overseer was much pleased with the results from their Northrop looms and said he wished his company would buy more of them as they are short of help and also short of house room. If they had all Northrop looms they would have both houses and help enough.

At a mill with several thousand looms:

The looms are running very well indeed; They say the goods being made on the Northrop looms are better than they are getting on their common looms.

At a mill with several thousand looms:

The Agent told me that the previous week showed a production of 104 per cent. running half an hour at noon and half an hour at night five days per week. Weavers run from eighteen to twenty-four looms each.

At a mill with about two hundred looms:

Weavers run twenty-two looms each; the average production for twenty-eight weeks was 110 per cent. The looms run

through the noon hour and extra time nights and mornings.

At a mill with about five hundred looms:

I went through the mill with the weaver and found a very clean well run plant. The weaver is very proud of his production from his Northrop looms. For the past three months they have been running these looms during the dinner hour and have averaged about 103 per cent. production.

At a mill with about three hundred looms:

The Treasurer was much pleased with their Northrop looms. The production figures showed over 108 per cent. for the previous week running the looms through the noon hour; when not running through the noon hour production was 98 to 99 per cent.

At a mill with about two hundred looms:

They are very short of help here and the most of their common looms are standing idle waiting for weavers. The Northrop looms are running well. I saw in this weave room a man with but one arm running a set of looms. The overseer of weaving said he got off the best production of any weaver in the room the previous month. His right arm had been amputated near the elbow and to this arm he fastens his reed hook to draw the warp threads through the reed and harnesses.

At a mill with about eight hundred looms:

The agent told me that they were averaging twenty-two looms per weaver, and that the production, by running during the noon hour and about an hour in the morning before the weavers came in, averaged at times as high as 114 per cent.